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Paper No. 7

Pitney Bowes, Inc. 35 Waterview Drive P.O. Box 3000 Shelton, CT 06484-8000

In re Application of: Joshi, *et al.* Application No. 09/898,232 Filed: July 2, 2001 Attorney Docket No. F-281 **COPY MAILED**

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OFFICE OF PETITIONS

DECISION GRANTING PETITION

This is a decision on the January 8, 2002 petition under 37 C.F.R. §1.10(c) requesting that the above-identified application be accorded a filing date of July 2, 2002, rather than the presently accorded filing date of July 3, 2002.

Petitioner alleges that the application was deposited in Express Mail service on July 2, 2002. In support, the petition is accompanied by a copy of Express Mail receipt no. EK794131491US (the same Express Mail number found on the original application papers located in the official file). While the "date in" on the label copy is illegible, the petition also includes a printout of the shipment history of that label number from the usps.com web site. The shipping history indicates that the label was accepted by the USPS on July 2, 2001.

In view of the above, this petition is granted.

This application will be returned to Initial Patent Examination Division for correction of the filing date to July 2, 2001.

Telephone inquiries concerning this matter may be directed to the undersigned in the Office of Petitions at (703) 306-5593.

Scott M. Ledford Attorney

Office of Petitions

Office of the Deputy Assistant Commissioner

for Patent Examination Policy